

By: Lucio III

H.R. No. 1640

R E S O L U T I O N

1           WHEREAS, The citizens of Texas lost a courageous and  
2 dedicated law enforcement officer with the death of U.S. Border  
3 Patrol Agent Susan Lynn Rodriguez on July 7, 1998, at the age of 28;  
4 and

5           WHEREAS, Born on July 11, 1969, in San Diego, California, to  
6 Stephen and Robyn Williams, the former Susan Lynn Williams was  
7 raised in a Border Patrol family in the company of her younger  
8 sister, Julie Dyane; her father's career took the family around the  
9 country, and she ultimately graduated in 1987 from Ferndale High  
10 School in Washington, where she was student body vice president and  
11 captain of the cheerleading squad; after attending college in San  
12 Diego, she transferred to The University of Texas at El Paso to  
13 study elementary education; and

14           WHEREAS, She was hired by the U.S. Border Patrol in 1993; she  
15 graduated from the Border Patrol Academy in Glynco, Georgia, on  
16 February 4 of that year, with her father, who was then serving as  
17 deputy border patrol chief of the El Paso Sector, giving the  
18 commencement speech and pinning on her badge; not long after  
19 beginning work in Harlingen, she met fellow agent Gilberto  
20 Rodriguez; the pair exchanged wedding vows on March 18, 1995, and  
21 welcomed the birth of a daughter, Megan Suzanne, the following  
22 year; although deeply devoted to her career, she cherished her role  
23 as a wife and mother above all else and was blessed with the support  
24 and affection of a loving family in all her endeavors; and

1           WHEREAS, Joining the Border Patrol at a time when women made  
2 up only a small minority of the agency, Agent Rodriguez helped blaze  
3 a trail for other female officers by quickly earning the respect and  
4 admiration of her colleagues; during her six years in the field, she  
5 volunteered to be a post-academy instructor and was often involved  
6 in training new agents; she also served as a recruiter in the  
7 welfare and recreation office and as an equal employment  
8 opportunity representative, and she worked closely with the  
9 D.A.R.E. Program in Harlingen; when she was killed while assisting  
10 in the search for a murder suspect, she became the first female  
11 agent in the history of the U.S. Border Patrol to die in the line of  
12 duty; she was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart on July 28,  
13 1999; and

14           WHEREAS, Texans owe an incalculable debt of gratitude to the  
15 men and women of law enforcement who risk their lives in our behalf,  
16 and Susan Lynn Rodriguez's commitment to protecting the safety and  
17 well-being of the public will forever be remembered by all those who  
18 had the good fortune to know her; now, therefore, be it

19           RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas  
20 Legislature hereby pay tribute to the life and exemplary service of  
21 U.S. Border Patrol Agent Susan Lynn Rodriguez and extend heartfelt  
22 sympathy to her family and friends; and, be it further

23           RESOLVED, That an official copy of this resolution be  
24 prepared for her family and that when the Texas House of  
25 Representatives adjourns this day, it do so in memory of Susan Lynn  
26 Rodriguez.